REMARKS:

- 1) Entry of this Second Preliminary Amendment including new claims 19 to 28 is respectfully requested. Claims 19 to 28 are based on original, literally translated claims 6 to 8 and 12 to 18, except for avoiding the improper multiple dependencies.
- 2) Note that the Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority found that all PCT claims 1 to 18 (corresponding to present US claims 1 to 5, 9 to 11 and 19 to 28) satisfied all PCT criteria for patentability, including novelty, non-obviousness, and utility.
- 3) Claims 1 to 5, 9 to 11, and 19 to 28 are the claims to be examined. Favorable consideration and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted, <u>Hans-Joachim GERHARDT et al.</u> Applicant

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